(b) how far the production is according to stipulation made for the purpose for the year; and

(c) the quantity of crude so far imported during the year and the foreign exchange utilized for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The details regarding targets for production of crude oil for 2003-04 and the actual production till 30 November, 2003 by the two national oil companies, namely, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL), as well as the Private/Joint Venture Cos. (Pvt./ JVCs) are given below:

(Production in Million Metric Tonnes (MMT)

	ONGC	OIL	Pvt/JVC	Total
Target for production in 2003-04	26.387	3.2	3.905	33.492
Production from April to November 2,003.	17.169	1.991	2.82	21.980
Achievement.	65.06%	62.22%	72.22%	65.63%

(c) During April-November 2003, a quantity of 58.09 MMT (provisional) of crude oil valued about US $ 11,419 million (Rupees 51,918 crore) was imported.

Committee for Mid and South Tapti Production

1483. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been formed for Mid and South Tapti production sharing of natural gas;

(b) whether the Committee has been given any time-frame to submit its report;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested to allot additional natural gas to Gujarat for power projects of Gujarat; and

(d) by when, the additional gas is to be allotted to Gujarat State for its power project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) A Management Committee, comprising one member each from Government and the consortium members constituting the contractor for Mid & South Tapti fields, exists under the provisions of the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) for monitoring performance of petroleum operations of the fields. This Committee, *inter-alia,* is to monitor and oversea the petroleum operations during the life of the PSC.

(c) and (d) A request had been received from the Government of Gujarat for allotment of additional Natural Gas to Pipavav Power Plant. As regards additional gas to be allotted to the State of Gujarat for power projects situated therein; for Pipavav Power Plant, Government has allocated 2.25 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meter per Day (MMSCMD) of Natural Gas out of additional production from Mid & South Tapti gas fields. Further, regassified Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from Petronet LNG available from April 2004 at market related prices through its Dahej terminal can be supplied to various units, including the power projects in Gujarat.

Oil Import Bill

†1484. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount being spent by Government on account of oil import and the extent of increase in the oil import bill during the each of the last three years;

(b) the impact of heavy expenditure being incurred on oil import on the economy of the country; and

- (c) the steps taken by Government to check oil import expenditure?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.